

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced Friday that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has awarded a grant of \$6.4 million to reimburse Texas for emergency response services provided after Hurricane Ike in September 2008.

“The federal government always stands ready to assist state and local governments when disasters strike,” said Congressman Rodriguez. “This grant acknowledges that and serves to remind us of the compassion, efficiency and rapid response displayed by our San Antonio and Bexar County community during the 2008 hurricane season.”

Congressman Rodriguez said the reimbursement comes at a time when local and state governments are feeling the effects of a tight economy. The funds are going to the State of Texas, which originally provided the resources to the City of San Antonio in the wake of Hurricane Ike. During the aftermath, Port San Antonio handled 1,291 buses; 525 ambulances; 9,401 general population evacuees; 1,500 special needs evacuees; 627 pets and 3,897 responders.

# # #